

THE GLOUCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Our mission is for all students to be successful, engaged, lifelong learners.

School Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 26, 2011

City Hall – Kyrouz Auditorium

7:00 p.m.

Members

Val Gilman, Chairperson
Melissa Teixeira, Vice Chairperson
Kathleen Clancy, Secretary
Michelle Sweet
Roger Garberg
Mayor Carolyn Kirk

Administration Present

Interim Superintendent Dr. Joseph Connelly
Assistant Superintendent Brian Tarr
CFO Tom Markham
Bill Goodwin, GHS Principal
Linda Lowe, City Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Gilman called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Note: Chairperson Gilman stated the mission of the Gloucester Public Schools.

At this time, the Agenda was taken out of order.

VII. STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Kelly Benson updated the School Committee on events at Gloucester High School, including the “secret pal” program with teachers, the winter Olympics, girls and boys basketball, boys hockey, and girls gymnastics. She stated that the seniors are now waiting to hear back from colleges about their applications. Chairperson Gilman thanked Ms. Benson for her report.

III. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

A. East Gloucester Elementary School After School Program Work and the School Newspaper – Cancelled due to weather.

B. Welcome to Dr. Richard Safier – Chairperson Gilman congratulated Dr. Safier and thanked him for being at the meeting. Dr. Safier thanked the committee for the opportunity and updated them on activities he’s been involved with this week. He offered to use his vacation time in Billerica for contract negotiations. Chairperson Gilman stated that she is looking forward to discussing more specific details of his contract next week.

Note: Chairperson Gilman acknowledged City Clerk Linda Lowe, CFO Tom Markham, and Assistant Superintendent Brian Tarr.

C. Selection of School Committee Member for Duration of Current Term through December 31, 2011 – The following candidates addressed the School Committee on their qualifications for School Committee member:

- David Anderson – Local business owner
- Anthony Gross – Former School Committee member (2002-2006) and fishing capt.
- Ira Yavner – Former teacher and football coach, insurance/financial analyst

Chairperson Gilman expressed her gratitude that three candidates have shown interest in the position, and each school committee member shared their thoughts on the candidates.

After discussion, it was unanimously

VOTED: By Roll Call Vote

Chairperson Gilman – Anthony Gross
Ms. Teixeira – Anthony Gross
Kathy Clancy – Anthony Gross
Mrs. Sweet – Anthony Gross
Mr. Garberg – Anthony Gross
Mayor Kirk – Anthony Gross

To elect Anthony Gross as School Committee Member for the duration of the current term through December 31, 2011.

At this time, a three-minute recess was taken to thank all of the candidates.

Swearing In of New School Committee Member – City Clerk Linda Lowe swore in Anthony Gross as the new School Committee Member, and he joined the School Committee at the table.

IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None

V. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON – None

VI. RECOGNITIONS

- Dr. Connelly acknowledged Sam Bevins, Grade 8 Student Nominee, for attending and being part of Governor Patrick's Project 351.
- Kathy Clancy recognized Chairperson Gilman for organizing the education forum on January 25, 2011. Dr. Connelly distributed comments received from the attendees on evaluation forms, and Kathy Clancy, Mrs. Sweet and Ms. Teixeira read them for the audience. The overall rating for the forum was 4.66 on a scale of 1 to 5.
- Chairperson Gilman recognized Stacy Randall for her leadership role in coordinating the videography for the education forum which included the literacy videotape of the Bay State Readers Institute program at Beeman and Veterans Memorial School and for the soon to be released video on STEM training for fifth graders to familiarize them with the O'Maley Middle School.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes

1. School Committee Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2011
2. Special School Committee Meeting Minutes of January 20, 2011

B. Schedule of Future Meetings

Program Sub-Committee – Friday, February 4, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.

Location: Superintendent’s Conference Room

Agenda: To be announced

School Committee – Wednesday, February 9, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Location: City Hall – Kyrouz Auditorium

Agenda: To be announced

Personnel Sub-Committee – Wednesday, February 15, 2011 at 4:45 p.m.

Location: Superintendent’s Conference Room

Agenda: Personnel Evaluation Status, health insurance audit, and job qualifications for GAEP employees

Mayor Kirk pointed out that there is a reference to Executive Session in the minutes of the January 10, 2011 School Committee meeting minutes, and we did not go into Executive Session. Chairperson Gilman requested that Mrs. Puglisi remove the reference to Executive Session in the January 10th minutes.

Mrs. Sweet pointed out that the date of the Personnel Sub-Committee meeting should be **Tuesday**, February 15, 2011.

On a motion by Mrs. Sweet, seconded by Kathy Clancy, it was

VOTED: 6 in favor, 1 present (Tony Gross) to approve the Consent Agenda as noted above.

IX. REPORTS/DELIBERATIONS ON EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

- ### **A. Report of the Superintendent of Schools** – Interim Superintendent Dr. Connelly indicated that all of the matters addressed in his report will be discussed later on the agenda. He stated that the scheduled presentation by East Gloucester School was cancelled due to the weather.

X. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

- ### **A. Building & Finance Sub-Committee of January 26, 2011** – Chairperson Clancy reported that the subcommittee discussed an “Outdoor Classroom of the Future” at O’Maley Middle School, GHS athletic prices, and the MSBA Green Repair project.

Kathy Clancy made a motion, seconded by Ms. Teixeira, that the O'Maley Middle School Campus "Outdoor Classroom of the Future" be added to the five-year capital plan. After discussion, on a motion by Mr. Garberg, seconded by Mayor Kirk, it was unanimously

VOTED: To table this agenda item until after it is presented to the full School Committee on February 9, 2011.

After discussion, on a motion by Kathy Clancy, seconded by Mrs. Sweet, it was unanimously

VOTED: To reduce GHS athletic ticket prices from \$7.00 to \$5.00 for adults and from \$4.00 to \$3.00 for students for basketball games, subject to analysis of lost revenues by the athletic department. These new ticket prices will expire at the end of this school year.

After discussion, on a motion by Chairperson Gilman, seconded by Mrs. Sweet, it was unanimously

VOTED: To appoint Kathy Clancy as the School Committee representative for the Owner's Project Manager (OPM) Search.

On a motion by Mrs. Gilman, seconded by Ms. Teixeira, it was unanimously

VOTED: To appoint Kathy Clancy as the School Committee representative for the Designer Firm Search.

XI. DISCUSSION

A. Vocational Advisory Update – Dr. Bill Goodwin, GHS Principal, recognized the ROTC program for their participation in a competition over the last couple of weekends. He then updated the School Committee on the Vocational Program Advisory Committee. He reported on a dinner meeting at the Elks at which 35 people expressed interest in being on the advisory committee. Ms. Teixeira commended Dr. Goodwin for organizing the advisory committee. Dr. Goodwin recognized Jim Hayes and Tom Markham for being instrumental in the vocational program. Chairperson Gilman thanked Dr. Goodwin for updating the School Committee.

B. School Lunch Program

1. December Report – Dr. Connelly presented the food service monthly income and expense report for 2010-2011 and stated that at the second School Committee of each month, the committee will receive the prior month's income and expense report, which will help keep a close watch on the program. He explained the \$72,000 deficit in the month of December resulting from a 15-day, three payroll month, and there was a brief discussion of the \$3,300.00 in delinquent payments.

2. Point of Service System Implementation Status and Update – Mr. Markham updated the School Committee on implementation of the POS system and stated that it will be deployed to each of the schools either on Friday or at the beginning of next week. He also reviewed the plan for informing parents of the new system and the possibility of demonstrating the system at the next School Committee meeting.
- C. **FY2012 Budget Process and Timeline** – Dr. Connelly reviewed the FY12 city and school budget timeline and stated that the draft 1 budget will be a level service budget. Mayor Kirk pointed out some flaws in the timeline and suggested that Mr. Markham and Jeff Towne work on it together. Dr. Connelly stated that the budget document that will be presented in a few weeks will contain a great deal of detail backing up the dollar amount.
- D. **Five-Year Capital Plan Review – 2012 to 2016** – Dr. Connelly reviewed the five-year capital plan for FY12 to FY16. There was a discussion about curriculum initiatives and technology.
- E. **MSBA Green Repair Update** – See Section X.
- F. **Education Forum Debrief** – See Section VI.
- G. **Target Date Plan for Strategic Planning Process was January 26, 2011, to Review Priorities/Goals** – Chairperson Gilman requested that the Committee adjust the timetable and refer the data analysis portion of the survey compilation from the focus groups back to Program Subcommittee and then to align the future strategic planning with the new Superintendent’s leadership. The committee supported this recommendation.

XII. ACTION

- A. **Request from Deputy Fire Chief Miles Schlichte** – Deputy Chief Schlichte was not present at the meeting this evening, apparently due to the weather. Dr. Connelly recommended tabling this matter until the Deputy Fire Chief can explain it. Chairperson Gilman requested that he be invited to the February 9, 2011 meeting.

- B. **Acceptance of Gift**

On a motion by Chairperson Gilman, seconded by Mrs. Sweet, it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept a check in the amount of \$50.00 from Lueders Environmental, Inc.

- C. **Acceptance of Scholarship Trust**

After discussion, on a motion by Chairperson Gilman, seconded by Mrs. Sweet, it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the W. Raymond Hull Scholarship Trust.

Dr. Connelly indicated that this trust has a value of \$86,899.96 and stated that he is trying to determine what it will generate on a yearly basis.

XIII. OTHER COMMUNICATION

A. For Your Information

1. Email (1/13/11) from Paul Scola regarding Roof Repair Loan Order.
2. Email (1/11/11) from Chairperson Gilman regarding Update on School Committee Search.
3. Email (1/22/11) from Chairperson Gilman regarding the Lowell Sun.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion by Ms. Teixeira, seconded by Mr. Garberg, it was unanimously

VOTED: By Roll Call Vote

Chairperson Gilman – yes
Kathy Clancy – yes
Ms. Teixeira – yes
Mrs. Sweet – yes
Mr. Garberg – yes
Mr. Gross – yes
Mayor Kirk – yes

To enter into Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations with union employees and the superintendent elect and to enter back into regular session for the purpose of adjournment only.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Ms. Teixeira, seconded by Mr. Gross, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adjourn the School Committee Meeting of January 26, 2011 at 10:25 p.m.

All reference documents and reports are filed in the Superintendent's office.

*Maria Puglisi
Recording Secretary*